United Nations ST/CS/SER.A/29/Rev.1

Secretariat

14 May 1999

Editorial directive

Prepared by Editorial Control

To: All those concerned with drafting and editing United Nations documents and publications

Subject: **Use of the terms "Persian Gulf", "Gulf" and "Shatt al-Arab"**

1. The term "Persian Gulf" is used in documents, publications and statements emanating from the Secretariat as the standard geographical designation for the sea area between the Arabian Peninsula and the Islamic Republic of Iran. The full term "Persian Gulf" is always used to designate that sea area when it is first referred to in a text and is repeated thereafter whenever necessary for the sake of clarity.

2. The term "Gulf" is used in documents, publications and statements emanating from the Secretariat to identify or refer to the general geographical area surrounding or adjacent to the sea area referred to in paragraph 1 above or to refer to the situation around that sea area. The terms "Gulf area", "Gulf region" and "Gulf States" are examples of such usage.

3. In verbatim or summary records when a speaker is quoted, when material provided by a Government is circulated, or when a resolution or decision of a deliberative body of the United Nations is adopted, the Secretariat reproduces, without any change, the terminology used by the speaker, Government or deliberative body concerned.

4. In cases of doubt, staff members are requested to contact the Editorial Control Section, which will issue a ruling after appropriate consultation.

5. The present directive supersedes editorial directives ST/CS/SER.A/29 and Corr.1 and Add.1 and 2, except with regard to use of the term "Shatt al-Arab".

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